Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SAIGON 11627 280753 Z

12
ACTION EA-13

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ADP-00 NSC-10 NSCE-00 PM-03 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00 EUR-10 IO-03 L-03 DPW-01

RSR-01 /070 W
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R 280514 Z JUN 73
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3831
INFO USDEL JEC PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 11627

LIMDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT PINS MILI VS
SUBJECT: MR 2 SITREP, JUNE 27

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SAIGON INFO CINCPAC, DAO/ SAIGON,
USSAG NKP 27 JUNE REPEATED FOR YOU

QUOTE:
C O N F I D E N T I A L NHA TRANG 0643

LIMDIS

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT PINS MILI VS
SUBJECT: MR 2 SIT REP, JUNE 27

1. SECURITY SITUATION: MOST OF MR 2 CONTINUES QUIET, BUT
FIGHTING IS STILL GOING ON IN BINH DINH AND KONTUM. FOLMWING
FIGURES PERTAIN TO 48- HOUR PERIOD: TOTAL OF 34 INCIDENTS
REPORTED; 12 IN BINH DINH, 11 IN KONTUM, FIVE IN PHU YEN,
THREE IN BINH THUAN, AND ONE EACH IN PLEIKU, NINH THUAN,
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SAIGON 11627 280753 Z

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

AND TUYEN DUC. INCIDENTS INCLUDED: 12 VC/ NVA ATTACKS BY FIRE, 12 VC/ NVA MININGS, EIGHT VC/ NVA GROUND ATTACKS, ONE FIREFIGHT BETWEEN UNIDENTIFIED VC/ NVA UNIT AND ARVN COMPANY ON PATROL, AND ONE RF RAID ON VC POSITION. CASUALTY AGGREGATES: VC/ NVA: 42 KIA; RVNAF: EIGHT KIA, 37 WIA, TWO MIA. FIVE SCHOOLCHILDREN WERE WOUNDED BY VC SHELLING OF PRIMARY SCHOOL IN BINH THUAN.

2. OF TOTAL OF 12 INCIDENTS REPORTED IN BINH DINH DURING THE PERIOD, NINE OCCURRED IN NORTHERN PHU MY DISTRICT (FOUR VC ATTACKS BY FIRE, THREE VC MININGS AND TWO VC GROUND ATTACKS). THIS REPRESENTS CONSIDERABLE UPSURGE OF ACTIVITY FOR NORTHERN PHU MY, WHICH HAD BEEN PEACEFUL FOR PAST MONTH OR SO. ENEMY INTENTIONS REFLECTED BY CURRENT ACTIVITY THERE ARE NOT CLEAR, BUT ACTIVITY COULD BE IN REACTION AGAINST RECENT EFFORTS OF 41 ST ARVN REGT TO EXPAND GVN CONTROL IN AREAS OF PHU MY TO THE EAST AND WEST OF QL 1. THE NINE INCIDENTS IN PHU MY RESULTED IN: RVNAF LOSSES: ONE KIA, EIGHT WIA; VC/ NVA LOSSES: 15 KIA.

3. ARRO REP KONTUM REPORTS THAT HEAVY FIGHTING IS CONTINUING IN THE TRUNG NGHIA AREA AND AROUND PLEI KLOR ZA 137837 WITH HIGH CASUALTIES ON BOTH SIDES BUT PARTICULARLY ON THE SIDE OF THE VC/ NVA, WHO LOST 15 KIA IN LAST 24 HOURS. HEAVY TACAIR AND ARTILLERY SUPPORT OF ALL ENGAGEMENTS. RVNAF FORCES, LED BY FOUR ARVN BATTALIONS, ARE MAKING BUT SLOW HEADWAY AGAINST STIFF ENEMY RESISTANCE. (UPCOMING NHA TRANG A-77, BEING POUCHED TO SAIGON JUNE 29, CONTAINS DETAIL ON DISPOSITION OF MAJOR ARVN UNITS IN BATTLE TO RETAKE TRUNG NGHIA AND POLEI KRONG.)

4. PHU YEN SECTOR JUNE 26 LAUNCHED AN OPERATION INVOLVING 11 COMPANIES TO CLEAR MINES FROM STRECTH OF ROUTE 7 B BETWEEN WESTERN TUY HOA DISTRICT AND SON HOA DISTRICT TOWN. OPERATION REPORTED TO BE PROCEDING SATISFACTORILY. ROAD BEYOND SON HOA TOWN TO PHU BON BORDER ALREADY OPEN TO TRAFFIC, WITH CONVOY OF SEVEN TRUCKS REPORTEDLY HAVING SUCCESSFULLY DRIVEN TO PHU TUC TOWN, PHU BON ON JUNE 26.

5. ICCS: GROUP OF SEVEN INDONESIANS AND HUNGARIANS, INCLUDING CHIEFS OF DELEGATIONS FROM PLEIKU AND MEMBERS OF SAIGON ICCS SECRETARIAT, VISITED KONTUM YESTERDAY FOR THE STATED PURPOSE OF " LOOKING AT ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS." CANDEL MEMBER IN KONTUM LATER SPECULATED IN CONVERSATION WITH POLOFF THAT

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 SAIGON 11627 280753 Z

VISIT MIGHT TEND TO SUPPORT RUMORS HE HAD HEARD IN SAIGON TO THE EFFECT THAT THE POLES MIGHT QUIT THE ICCS THE END OF JULY, LEAVING THE INDONESIANS AND HUNGARIANS AS A TWO- PARTY ICCS. (COMMENT: CONGEN POLOFF HAS ALSO HEARD A POLISH COLONEL MAKE THE POINT THAT IF THE POLISH DELEGATION WERE TO QUIT WITH THE CANADIANS IT WOULD LEAVE A " BALANCED" TWO- PARTY ICCS AND WOULD

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

RESULT IN CONSIDERABLE FINANCIAL SAVING IN ICCS OPERATING
COSTS.)

6. ICCS TEAM HAD PLANNED TO ARRIVE IN QUANG DUC JUNE 26 TO
BEGIN INVESTIGATION OF SERIES OF RECENT INCIDENTS, BUT INVESTI-
GATION WAS CALLED OFF BY ORDER OF ICCS CHAIRMAN IN PHAN THIET
BECAUSE OF ALLEGATIONS THAT FIRINGS CAME FROM POSITIONS ACROSS
THE CAMBODIAN BORDER. ICCS HAS NO JURISDICTION TO CARRY ITS
INVESTIGATIONS ACROSS BORDER INTO CAMBODIA.

7. SIX- MAN ICCS POE TEAM AT CAM RANH (NO POLES) REMAINS
INACTIVE BUT WOULD BEGIN TO CHECK CARGOES IF TPJMC LIAISON
OFFICERS WERE PRESENT. ACCORDING TO ARRO REP, ICCS HAS REQUESTED
THAT LIAISON OFFICERS FROM TPJMC AT NINH HOA BE PERMANENTLY
ASSIGNED TO CAM RANH, BUT APPARENTLY NO RESPONSE SO FAR
FORTHCOMING.

8. VILLAGE ELECTIONS: ARRO REP REPORTS THAT VILLAGE COUNCIL
ELECTIONS WERE HELD IN 15 VILLAGES OF PHU BON ON JUNE 21 WITH
VOTER TURNOUT RANGING FROM 70 TO 99.2 PERCENT. THE LOWEST RATE
OF TURNOUT WAS REGISTERED IN HAO DUC, THE PROVINNCE CAPITAL
VILLAGE AND CENTER OF ETHNIC VIETNAMESE, AS CATHOLIC VOTERS,
FEELING THAT THEIR TWO CANDIDATES NEVER REALLY HAD A CHANCE,
BOYCOTTED THE ELECTIONS, LEAVING THE BUDDHISTS WITH A CLEAN
SWEEP OF ALL 8 SEATS; AND MANY SOLDIERS
ALSO FAILED TO VOTE,
APPARENTLY BECAUSE THEY DID NOT KNOW WHERE TO GO TO CAST THEIR
BALLOTS. THE PROVINCE CHIEF WAS REPORTEDLY VERY ANGRY WHEN HZP
LEARNED HIS VOTING OFFICER HAD FAILED TO " GET OUT THE SOLDIER
VOTE." ELSEWHERE, IN THE PREDOMINANTLY MONTAGNARD VILLAGES,
MOST OF
THE ELECTIONS WERE FOREGONE CONCLUSIONS WITH THE NUMBER
OF LISTED CANDIDATES JUST EQUALING THE NUMBER OF SEATS IN
8 VILLAGES, AND EXCEEDING THE NUMBER OF SEATS BY ONLY ONE
OR TWO IN VIRTUALLY ALL THE OTHERS.
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PAGE 04 SAIGON 11627 280753 Z

9. MASS MEETING OF LABOR UNIONS: A MASS MEETING OF ALL SIX OF
THE LOCAL LABOR UNIONS WERE HELD JUNE 24 IN MUNICIPAL THEATER IN
PLEIKU TO HEAR ADDRESS BY THUAN
QUOC BUU, CHAIRMAN OF
NATIONAL LABOR CONFEDERATION (CVT). MR. BUU URGED EXISTING
UNIONS TO ASSIST WORKERS IN OTHER AREAS TO ORGANIZE IN THE
INTEREST OF STRONGER NATIONAL LABOR MOVEMENT. DEPUTY
MINISTER OF LABOR ALSO ATTENDED.
TEARE
UNQUOTE WHITEHOUSE

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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